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Fine Jewelry: A Classic, Beautiful Gift

By Stephanie Foster

Want to see that special someone's eyes light up? Give jewelry for a present.

Fine jewelry can sound like an intimidating gift to give. There's so much to know, both about the person you're giving it to and the jewelry you are buying. You want to get good value for your money while finding something that will be worn regularly.

One trick is to look at what he or she wears regularly. Any favorite jewelry? Favorite colors? Trendy or conservative style? Any hobbies or interests? You want to focus on the things you already know.

Let's start with an example. You're a man buying a gift for his wife. Married 10 years, 2 kids. She wears very simple jewelry, mostly gold and diamonds. Here are a few suggestions:

- A 3-stone diamond pendant, earrings or ring. These are very popular right now.
- A mother's ring. While it's probably going to be more colorful than what she normally wears, a mother's ring is a beautiful way for her to celebrate being a mother.
- A right hand ring. These are diamond rings that are intended for the right hand. They're quite popular right now and available in a nice range of styles.

Here's another example. You've been dating a woman for a while, not ready to get engaged yet, but would like to buy her some jewelry. She's very trendy, loves to wear bright colors and seems to wear a different piece of jewelry every day.

- Dangling gemstone earrings. Pick the color based on what you think would look good on her. Briolettes are popular in dangling earrings right now. It's a cut of gemstone that looks quite lovely hanging down.
- A watch. Find a watch that suits her style. If she wears more delicate jewelry, one with a thinner strap is appropriate. If she prefers larger jewelry, she will probably prefer a larger watch.
- No rings! If you aren't ready to propose marriage, don't confuse things even with a gemstone ring. I've seen those get misinterpreted. Definitely, DEFINITELY do not buy a diamond ring if you aren't proposing.

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Guys, I'm not forgetting that women sometimes shop for you, so here goes. You want to get the man in your life some jewelry. Like most men, he tends to wear very little jewelry, and what he does is most often functional, like his watch and maybe one ring.

· A dress watch. Get him something for your more elegant evenings out. · A heavy chain bracelet or necklace. Figaro links are quite popular with men. I suggest at least 5mm thick for most men. · A birthstone ring. This really isn't as popular as the first two suggestions, but on the other hand it means it is less expected. It's a way to give a little color.

Fine jewelry is a gift meant to last a lifetime. While some people have a very hard time finding the perfect item to give, it doesn't have to be as impossible as some feel it might be. The look of delight you are likely to get should make the challenge of shopping worth the time.

Stephanie Foster spent six years working in a jewelry store, but has since changed her focus to running sites such as

<http://www.jewelstoremember.com/>

and helping people recognize the great

jewelry selection available online.

Antique Jewelry: a timeless and elegant adornment

By Angela Davis

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Antique jewelry is a timeless classic adornment which can never go out of fashion. It is the epitome of ethereal charm, delicate grace and a gentle reminder of a bygone era. It is that jewelry which has been made during and before the early 1900's.

The jewelry has its own unique character which cannot be copied or imitated. In most cases antique jewelry is handcrafted. It has exquisite craftsmanship and a very special whimsical aura surrounding it, which sets it apart from all other jewelry, however beautiful or expensive they maybe. There is an understated classic elegance inherent in the design and styling. Though widely looked upon as being something worn by only those who are older; perceptions are gradually changing. It is now also seen as a very fashionable ornament which is quite in vogue and is worn by almost anyone, irrespective of their age group.

This kind of jewelry is not available in just any departmental store or some other normal jewelry shop, it can most often be found in niche show rooms, exclusive boutiques, and big auction houses and in antique dealer stores. These are the more reliable places from where you can acquire antique jewelry. Though there are many websites online and other shops which sell this kind of jewelry; it is best to be

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cautious. The reason being that in many cases the antique jewelry being sold is not actually an original . Also you could be charged an exorbitant price for a piece which is not actually that expensive. Unless you have a trained eye and know the difference, it is easy to be fooled.

In many cases antique jewelry has also been handed down from one generation to another and is a part of the family heirlooms. Some antique jewelry can actually be quite expensive and a real collector's item.

Just a simple piece of antique jewelry can greatly enhance your overall appearance, add to your appeal and lend a sophisticated charm to your entire persona. Being the beautiful pieces that they are, this jewelry can easily attract attention and can become the focal point of any conversation. However not every one can carry off antique jewelry, you have to have a certain inner beauty and dignity to wear it.

One of the best things about antique jewelry is that its value only appreciates with time. In fact some of the pieces are valuable collector's items and can fetch huge sums of money. They can in the long run, actually prove to be good investments.

Antique jewelry is a wonderful thing to buy for yourself, a delightful possession and also a great thing to gift to someone special in your life. Whether it is your daughter, mother, wife, girlfriend or sister; antique jewelry is that gift which lets the other person know how much they mean to you. Also this jewelry is not just restricted to women; there are beautiful intricate pieces which are there for men too.

So go ahead indulge yourself and relive the beauty of a bygone era.

Looking for information about Jewelry? Go to: <http://www.merryjewelry.com> 'Merry Jewelry' is published by Angela Davis – The Complete Jewelry Resource Directory Check out more Jewelry articles at: <http://www.merryjewelry.com/archive>



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